

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense approved for full committee consideration an original bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2014.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Admiral Cecil E.D. Haney, USN for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Commander, United States Strategic Command, and Lieutenant General Curtis M. Scaparrotti, USA to be general and Commander, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/United States Forces Korea, both of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Stephen Woolman Preston, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Jon T. Rymer, of Tennessee, to be Inspector General, Susan J. Rabern, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management and Comptroller, Dennis V. McGinn, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment, all of the Department of Defense, and 2,256 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

WALL STREET REFORMS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine mitigating systemic risk in financial markets through Wall Street reforms, after receiving testimony from Mary Jo White, Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission; and Gary Gensler, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

HEALTH CARE COSTS

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine health care costs, focusing on recent progress and remaining challenges, after receiving testimony from Len M. Nichols, George Mason University College of Health and Human Services Center for Health Policy Research and Ethics, Fairfax, Virginia; and Kavita K. Patel, The Brookings Institution Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform, and Joseph R. Antos, American Enterprise Institute, both of Washington, DC.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 134, to arrange for the National Academy of Sciences to study the impact of violent video games and violent video programming on children, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 157, expressing the sense of the Senate that telephone service must be improved in rural areas of the United States and that no entity may unreasonably discriminate against telephone users in those areas, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 267, to prevent, deter, and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing through port State measures;

S. 269, to establish uniform administrative and enforcement authorities for the enforcement of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and similar statutes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 376, to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 839, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000;

S. 921, to amend chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, to prohibit the rental of motor vehicles that contain a defect related to motor vehicle safety;

S. 1068, to reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1072, to ensure that the Federal Aviation Administration advances the safety of small airplanes and the continued development of the general aviation industry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1254, to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998;

S. 1317, to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2014 through 2016, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1344, to promote research, monitoring, and observation of the Arctic, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1353, to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Jannette Lake Dates, of Maryland, Bruce M. Ramer, of California, Brent Franklin

Nelsen, of South Carolina, Howard Abel Husock, of New York, and Loretta Cheryl Sutliff, of Nevada, all to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Thomas C. Carper, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, Thomas Edgar Wheeler, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Mark E. Schaefer, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and nominations for promotion in the United States Coast Guard.

PUBLIC LANDS, FORESTS, AND MINING BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining concluded a hearing to examine S. 37, to sustain the economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land and other public land in the State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to release certain wilderness study areas, to designate new areas for recreation, S. 343, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids Mine Project Site, S. 364, to establish the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Management Area, to designate certain Federal land as wilderness, and to improve the management of noxious weeds in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, S. 404, to preserve the Green Mountain Lookout in the Glacier Peak Wilderness of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, S. 753, to provide for national security benefits for White Sands Missile Range and Fort Bliss, S. 1169, to withdraw and reserve certain public land in the State of Montana for the Limestone Hills Training Area, S. 1300, to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide for the conduct of stewardship end result contracting projects, S. 1301, to provide for the restoration of forest landscapes, protection of old growth forests, and management of national forests in the eastside forests of the State of Oregon, S. 1309, to withdraw and reserve certain public land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior for military uses, H.R. 507, to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, H.R. 862, to authorize the conveyance of two small parcels of land within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest containing private improvements that were developed based upon the reliance of the landowners in an erroneous survey conducted in May 1960, H.R. 876, to authorize the continued use of certain water diversions located on National Forest System land in the Frank Church-

River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in the State of Idaho, and H.R. 993 and S. 509, bills to provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of National Forest System land to the city of Fruit Heights, Utah, after receiving testimony from Katherine G. Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy, and Environment, and Roger M. Natsuhara, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment, both of the Department of Defense; Ned Farquhar, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management; and Leslie Weldon, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

NUCLEAR WASTE ADMINISTRATION ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1240, to establish a new organization to manage nuclear waste, provide a consensual process for siting nuclear waste facilities, ensure adequate funding for managing nuclear waste, after receiving testimony from Ernest J. Moniz, Secretary of Energy; Sally Young Jameson, National Conference of State Legislatures, Bryantown, Maryland; Joe Garcia, National Congress of American Indians, Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico; David C. Boyd, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, St. Paul, on behalf of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Committee on Electricity; Chuck Smith, Jr., Aiken County, North Augusta, South Carolina, on behalf of the Energy Communities Alliance; Marvin S. Fertel, Nuclear Energy Institute, and Geoffrey H. Fettus, Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., both of Washington, D.C.; and David Lochbaum, Nuclear Safety Project, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on behalf of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Kenneth J. Kopocis, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water, James J. Jones, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Administrator for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, and Avi Garbow, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, all of the Environmental Protection Agency.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Morrell John Berry, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to Australia, Patricia Marie Haslach, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Reuben Earl Brigety, II, of Florida, to be Representative to the African Union, with the rank and status

of Ambassador, Daniel A. Clune, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Patrick Hubert Gaspard, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo, Joseph Y. Yun, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to Malaysia, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, James F. Entwistle, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, David D. Pearce, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Greece, John B. Emerson, of California, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, John Rufus Gifford, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to Denmark, Denise Campbell Bauer, of California, to be Ambassador to Belgium, and James Costos, of California, to be Ambassador to Spain and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to Andorra, all of the Department of State.

Also, committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy, and Global Women's Issues: Senators Boxer (Chair), Shaheen, Durbin, Coons, Kaine, Paul, Risch, Rubio, and Johnson (WI).

Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs: Senators Cardin (Chair), Murphy, Boxer, Udall (NM), Markey, Rubio, Johnson (WI), Flake, and McCain.

Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs: Senators Kaine (Chair), Boxer, Cardin, Coons, Durbin, Risch, Rubio, Johnson (WI), and McCain.

Subcommittee on African Affairs: Senators Coons (Chair), Durbin, Cardin, Shaheen, Udall (NM), Flake, McCain, Barrasso, and Paul.

Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere and Global Narcotics Affairs: Senators Udall (NM) (Chair), Kaine, Boxer, Shaheen, Murphy, McCain, Rubio, Barrasso, and Paul.

Subcommittee on European Affairs: Senators Murphy (Chair), Shaheen, Markey, Cardin, Durbin, Johnson (WI), Risch, Flake, and Barrasso.

Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs, International Environmental Protection, and Peace Corps: Senators Markey (Chair), Udall (NM), Coons, Murphy, Kaine, Barrasso, Risch, Flake, and Paul.

Senators Menendez and Corker are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Steve A. Linick, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Matthew Winthrop Barzun, of Kentucky, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, David Hale, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon, Liliana Ayalde, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Federative Republic of Brazil, Evan Ryan, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Kirk W.B. Wagar, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Singapore, who was introduced by Senator Nelson, Daniel A. Sepulveda, of Florida, to be Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Communications and Information Policy in the Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs and U. S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, Terence Patrick McCulley, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, James C. Swan, of California, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, John R. Phillips, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Italian Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino, Kenneth Francis Hackett, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Holy See, and Alexa Lange Wesner, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Austria, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

STANDARD ESSENTIAL PATENT DISPUTES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine standard essential patent disputes and antitrust law, after receiving testimony from Suzanne Munck, Chief Counsel for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director, Office of Policy Planning, Federal Trade Commission; A. Douglas Melamed, Intel Corporation, Santa Clara, California; Donald J. Rosenberg, Qualcomm Incorporated, San Diego, California; and John D. Kulick, The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Incorporated, Standards Association, New York, New York.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.